

St. Gertrude

ALL ARE WELCOME

1420 W. Granville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60660

www.stgertrudechicago.org • 773.764.3621

Fifth Sunday of Easter • May 19, 2019



This is my commandment: Love one
other as I have loved you.

~ John 15:12

From Father Rich

I don't think something human beings have been doing for thousands of years can be called a fad. But more recently many people have begun to look into the idea of fasting on some regular basis. There are new books out about fasting and at least two diets that are based on a practice of fasting, not to mention the many other diets that encourage us to fast from one or more items or categories of food (e.g. dairy, sugar, meat, etc.). What is new is that in most cases it is not motivated by a strictly spiritual concern. In most cases, it is about being better or healthier by avoiding some foods, or greatly restricting our food consumption on a certain number of days. In some of these, it may well be a more holistic approach to life—which includes a spiritual dimension. And in some cases it is purely a health issue.



What prompted my looking at the practice of fasting is the passage in today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. The reading continues to follow the expansion of the early church. And, as part of that expansion, we hear of the apostles appointing elders in these newly established faith communities, "They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith." It is that coupling of prayer and fasting that I think is so important. We are all expected and encouraged to pray. That is always a good thing. But it is also important that we remember who we are, and our own limitations, which is where the practice of fasting comes in. Fasting—even for one day—not only helps cleanse our bodies, it also helps clear our minds and hearts. It is only when we do without something for a while that we can truly appreciate what effect that "something" is having on our daily lives, on our outlook, on how we feel and think.

While I am not advocating a return to meatless Fridays throughout the year, I believe there is a great and ancient wisdom we might do well to listen to about deliberately choosing to do without some things in our lives as a spiritual practice, in order to restore balance and, in many cases, better health to our lives. It was the great medieval theologian and philosopher, Thomas Aquinas, who reminded us, "All things in moderation." Fasting is one avenue to work towards that moderation, and when we connect it to our prayer, it can also better connect us to our God.

Next weekend is Memorial Day weekend! The unofficial start of summer! As we begin to move towards the end of the Easter season, and the conclusion of the school year, it is also time for us to say farewell to another member of a community of religious women who are such a blessing to the parish.

Sister Terri McKenzie, SHCJ, is moving back to her motherhouse community outside Philadelphia at the end of the month. Sr. Terri has been the driving force behind the Green Team and its development here at St. Gertrude Parish. She was the author of many bulletin columns on Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, about care for our earthly home. As is true in so many religious communities, it has been the religious orders who long ago showed the broader Church that our spirituality must include all of creation. Sr. Terri has been such a blessing to us, and we hate to have to say good-bye. Please join in our farewell to her next Sunday, May 26 at the conclusion of the 10:00 am Mass in the back of Church.

Looking ahead to Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, we will have morning Mass at 9:00 am. Please join us as we remember those who have served our country, especially those who gave their lives in service.

~ Father Rich

Growing in Faith

Today we hear of the travels of Paul and Barnabas, “undergoing many hardships” as they spread the Gospel. In working with the Refugee and Immigrant Ministry, I think of the journeys our families undertake, seeking safe haven.

Just after Easter we welcomed our seventh family, a mother and two kids from the Central African Republic. This is truly a miracle as policies seek to constrain the number of refugees granted admittance to the United States. These mothers, fathers, and children have come from across the globe.

Together with Catholic Charities, we’ve co-sponsored families from Myanmar, Bhutan, Afghanistan, and Central African Republic. We’ve also been able to help others from Uganda, Syria, and Congo. For me, these people are apostles of hope.

For one, when I’m tempted to become preoccupied with some trivial concern, I think of their voyage. They have all taken flight, enduring arduous passages fraught with uncertainty. For another, I think of the deep mystical pull of home. How much stronger the hardship to compel someone to leave!

Our families have taught me to be fearless in seeing the goodness of God. “Behold, I make all things new.”

~ Denise Goodman for
Growing in Faith



Parish Calendar

Sunday, May 19

- 10:00 am ~ Last Kids Word session until September

Monday, May 20

- 7:30 pm ~ Poetry Pilgrims in the Ministry Center

Sunday, May 26

- Farewell to Sister Terri McKenzie, SHCJ, after the 10:00 am Mass in the back of Church

Monday, May 27

- Memorial Day
- Rectory closed
- 9:00 am ~ Mass on Memorial Day

Monday, June 3

- 7:00 pm ~ Baptismal prep class in the Rectory (Registration is required.)

Sunday, June 9

- 3:00–5:30 pm ~ Commonweal Community picnic in the garden adjoining the Rectory of St. Gertrude (In the event of rain, the picnic will be held in the Ministry Center.)

Sunday, June 9

- Pentecost Sunday
- 10:30 am ~ Combined Mass (Held in lieu of the 9:30 am St. Gertrude East, 10:00 am, 10:30 am Gym, and 11:30 am Masses.)

Sunday, June 16

- Father’s Day
- 10:30 am ~ Last Gym Mass until September

Sunday, June 23

- Summer Combined Mass schedule begins (There will be a 10:30 am Combined Mass in lieu of the 10:00 am and 11:30 am Masses in Church.)

Friday, July 26 - Sunday, August 4

- Teen summer service trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

First Communion at St. Gertrude

Last weekend, children from St. Gertrude made their First Communion. It was a wonderful day filled with happiness and excitement despite the rain and cold.

We thank the parents and families for their unconditional love and support; Father Rich for presiding over the Mass; Emily Davis, Tracy Shields, Ewa Jablonska, and Hillary Foster for their kind instruction and formation; Mary Clare Barker and Kristina Vragovic for the beautiful music; Gail Smith and Sarah Buntin for leading the celebration; Kristen Catuara and the other third grade families that coordinated the cupcake celebration after the Mass; and the parishioners of St. Gertrude for their encouragement and prayers.

~ Jim Potthast, Youth & Family Minister



First Communion at St. Gertrude



Thank You to Our Catechists

The Religious Education program for the 2018-2019 school year has ended and the last Kids Word is at today's 10:00 am Mass. Both programs will resume in the fall. Thank you to the men and women listed below who served as catechists and leaders for these two programs.

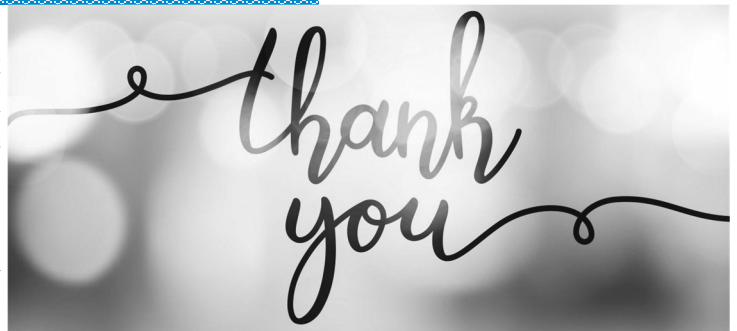
We are very grateful for their time and their hard work with the children!

Religious Education Program

- Sharon Brown
- Emily Davis
- Tracy Shields
- Alice Abrego
- Suzanne Stryczek
- Steve Monti
- Sarah Buntin
- Elsa Shalaveyus

Kids Word Program

- Ann Regan
- Kathy Wall
- Rich Martin
- Michele Reynolds
- Emily Todor



Parish News

TODAY—Kids Word for the School Year Comes to an End: The last Kids Word session for the 2018-2019 school year is today, Sunday, May 19 at the 10:00 am Mass.

Poetry Pilgrims: The next Poetry Pilgrims meeting will be tomorrow, Monday, May 20 at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center. For a list of poems that will be read, contact Mary Grover at mary@marsgrover.com.

Farewell Celebration for Sister Terri: Please join us for a farewell celebration for Sister Terri McKenzie, SHCJ, next Sunday, May 26 at the conclusion of the 10:00 am Mass in the back of Church. Sister Terri is moving back to her motherhouse community in the Philadelphia area.



Rectory Closed on Memorial Day: The Rectory will be closed on Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day holiday. Morning Mass will be held at 9:00 am.

Baptismal Preparation Class: The next class will be held on Monday, June 3 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory office at 773.764.3621 to register for the class.

Combined Mass on Sunday, June 9: On Pentecost Sunday, June 9, there will be a 10:30 am Combined Mass in lieu of the 9:30 am St. Gertrude East, 10:00 am, 10:30 am Gym, and 11:30 am Masses.

Knitting Group: The Knitting Group invites all knitters and crocheters to join us for fun and blanket square-making! We'll meet on Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center and continue to gather on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Ministry Center. No experience is necessary!

Sunday, June 16 is the Last Gym Mass until September: Our 10:30 am Gym Mass will be on hiatus over the summer, resuming in September.

Thank you to the coordinators of the Masses, and the many volunteers who make it so special!

Summer Combined Mass Schedule: As mentioned last fall, this year we will be experimenting with a summer Combined Mass schedule. Summer is generally a time of vacation for many of our parish families, and many of our helper priests are Jesuits from Loyola following an academic schedule.

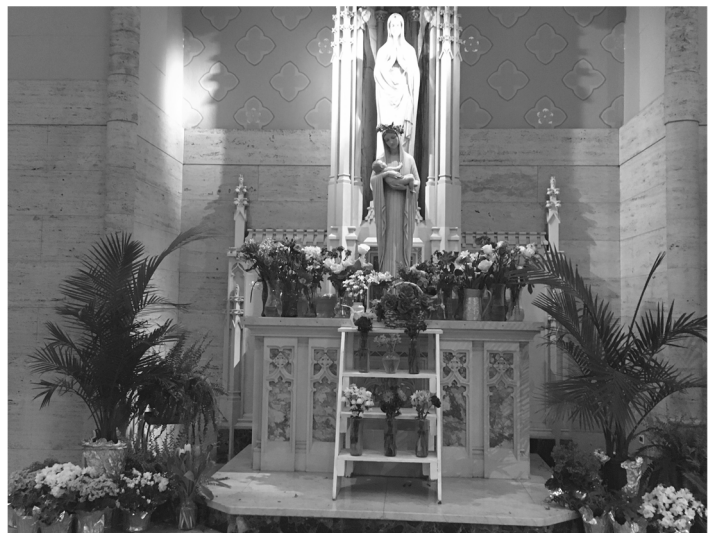
From June 23 to August 11, our Mass schedule will be:

- Saturday: 5:00 pm
- Sunday: 8:00 am
- Sunday: 9:30 am – Sheridan Road
- Sunday: 10:30 am – Combined Mass

The 10:30 am Combined Mass will be in lieu of the 10:00 am and 11:30 am Masses.

Requests for Hospital Visits: If you or a family member is hospitalized and wants a visit by a church staff member, please call the Heart to Heart office at 773.973.5464, as hospitals can no longer contact us with this information. Heart to Heart staff will then notify the Rectory.

Thank You for Coming to Our Mother's Day Combined Family Mass & May Crowning! We are so appreciative of everyone who came to our 10:30 am Mass last week and honored the women in our lives and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The flowers were beautiful!



Parish Stewardship

“Jesus said ... ‘I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for another.’” ~ John 13:34-35

Seemingly simple words. All we have to do is love one another. And yet, this might be the most difficult commandment of all—and at the same time, the most necessary one if we are ever to flourish as individuals, as community, as society.

Sunday Collection May 11-12	\$7,963.15
Budgeted Collection	<u>\$7,725.00</u>
Overage	(+) \$238.15

In Care of our Common Home

In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis states “concern for the environment needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society.” Love one another including those less fortunate than yourself and love the gifts of this earth. Both are intertwined together. Both are part of His creation.

This week’s tip: donate to a charity that helps those in need in other parts of the world.

To join the NCA Green Team, please contact George Tully at georgetully82@gmail.com.

~ Debbie Kern, NCA Green Team

Commonweal Community Picnic

It’s almost summer isn’t it? With hope for good weather, Commonweal Community will host a picnic on Sunday, June 9 from 3:00–5:30 pm in the garden adjoining the Rectory of St. Gertrude, 1420 West Granville. In case of rain, we will meet in the dining room of the Ministry Center.

Please join us for this informal summer event, even if

you have not previously participated in our Commonweal Community. If convenient, please bring a dish or dessert or drinks to share.

To help us plan, please RSVP to one of the co-chairs of Commonweal, Denise DeBelle, ddebelle@gmail.com, or John Williams, joolikar@gmail.com.

Teen Summer Service Trip 2019



2019 Summer Service Trip for Teens in the Parish *Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota* **July 26 - August 4, 2019**

Join us for a jam-packed week of service, friendship, fun, and so much more!

Teens currently in 8th grade to high school seniors are eligible to participate!

Contact Jim Potthast for more information at jpotthast@stgertrudechicago.org.

Our Parish at Prayer

MONDAY, MAY 20

7:30 am Living and deceased mothers & fathers of
St. Gertrude parishioners

TUESDAY, MAY 21

7:30 am Jaime Jeyuson †

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

7:30 am Stephanie Clark

† Indicates person
listed is deceased.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

7:30 am Communion Service

FRIDAY, MAY 24

7:30 am Catherine Ardito †

SATURDAY, MAY 25

7:30 am Purgatorial Society

5:00 pm Greg Wall †

SUNDAY, MAY 26

8:00 am Charlotte & Joseph Gorlich †

9:30 am Krystna Kazieczko-Kuszek †

10:00 am Saverio Raspa †

10:30 am Eleanor Blake †

11:30 am Parishioners of St. Gertrude

Ministers of the Word

SATURDAY, MAY 25

5:00 pm Jayne Deiters, Pat Reardon

SUNDAY, MAY 26

8:00 am Sr. Kathryn Stimac, Mark Kollar

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:00 am Rafael Melendez, Christine Curran

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Troy McMillan, Steve Monti

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;
Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8;
Jn 15:9-17

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 -- 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25,
27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-13; Rv 21:1-
5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, MAY 25

5:00 pm Joan Harrington, Tim Harrington, Kathy
Wall, Michelle Kuehlhorn, Patricia Norcik

SUNDAY, MAY 26

8:00 am Barb Daly, Sr. Kathryn Stimac, Mary
Wyler

9:30 am Pat Riley, Barbara Rossi and Leon Ward

10:00 am Carlos Barragan, Christine Curran, Rafael
Melendez, Brad Koch, Candace Koch,
Mary Donlan, Kathy Dunne

10:30 am TBA

11:30 am Richard Ashbeck, Jana Ashbeck, Troy
McMillan, Chris Lincoln, Steve Monti

Altar Servers

SATURDAY, MAY 25

5:00 pm Fiona Reynolds, Josephine Stoltz, Isabella
Stoltz

SUNDAY, MAY 26

10:00 am Luke Sharba, Nadia Millar, Dominic
Millar

11:30 am George Hanafee, Haiden Negrillo, Alise
Veleta

Support the Archdiocese of Chicago Domestic Violence Outreach

Donations may be made at

[https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/
event/12645.](https://www.givecentral.org/location/132/event/12645)

Milestones



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

Ed & Ester Bugler
Maggie Callaway
Geraldine Clark
Mary Ferguson
Mary Fitzgerald
Joan Harrington
Maria Hertl
Peggy Stoffel



Baptisms

Jack McHale Basile
Maxwell Zhi Cheng Howard



Rest in Peace

Donald Goodman,
father of Denise Goodman
Timothy Czech,
son of Alice Czech

Parish Information

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Richard J. Prendergast, Pastor
Brenda K. Arreola, Heart to Heart Office Staff
Mary Clare Barker, Minister of Music
Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities
Jane Callahan-Moore, Director of Parish Social Services
Kevin Cheers, Pastoral Associate
Laurie Hasbrook, Office Staff
Amanda Kvasnica, Office Staff
Jim Potthast, Youth and Family Minister
Tracy Shields, Minister of First Impressions/Communications
Sr. Judith Zonsius, Office Manager

OTHER PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Michael Bradley, Resident
Rev. Dominic Grassi, Retired Pastor
Rev. William Kenneally, Pastor Emeritus
Carol Beatty, St. Gertrude East Music Director

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am
9:30 am St. Gertrude East (Sacred Heart School/Sheridan and Granville)
10:30 am Mass in the Gym (except summer months)
Monday through Friday: 7:30 am (Thursday is a Communion Service.)
Saturday: 7:30 am and 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil)

LOCATIONS:

Rectory: 1420 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660 Phone: 773.764.3621
Website: www.stgertrudechicago.org
E-mail: stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org
Ministry Center: 6214 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660
Social Services Phone: 773.973.5464.
Social Hall: 1401 W. Granville Ave., Chicago, IL 60660

RECTORY BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am to 7:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

HEART TO HEART

Senior outreach and social services connection: 773.973.5464
Email: heart2heart@stgertrudechicago.org

PARISH SCHOOL

Northside Catholic Academy: 773.743.6277
www.northsidecatholic.org

BAPTISM

Baptisms take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Additionally, baptisms will be incorporated into one of the weekend Masses each month, with a different Mass having a baptism each month. This schedule will change in the summer months. Call the Rectory to make arrangements to have a child baptized, and to RSVP to attend a parent preparation meeting, held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We have an enriching program called the R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). Contact the Rectory for details.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin by setting up an appointment with the Pastor. Preparations are to begin at least four months prior to the desired date.

MINISTRY OF CARE AND COMMUNION

Trained ministers will gladly visit and bring communion to those who are sick or homebound. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are most welcome and are invited to stop in at the Rectory to introduce yourself and register, or register with one of the greeters before or after any Mass. Registration is also available online at www.stgertrudechicago.org.

RECONCILIATION

Individual: Saturday from 4:15-4:45 pm and by request.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS HELD AT ST. GERTRUDE

Al-Anon: Sundays at 7:00 pm in the Ministry Center
Open AA: Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the Ministry Center, and
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria.
Caris Pregnancy Center, pregnancy support, free pregnancy
tests, and post-abortion help: 312.229.5700.
Makko ho (Japanese yoga): Saturdays at 10:00 am in the
Ministry Center